

To the FCC Chairman Michael Powell:

I am disturbed to learn that you are pushing legislation that will overturn the prohibition on cross-ownership of television and newspaper outlets. You cannot claim democratic motives in this effort: our democracy depends on MORE diversity and scope of news production and outlets, not less. To allow further single ownership than already exists (which is already too much) threatens to limit in dangerous ways the range and differences in perspective that make this country worth fighting for. I consider your timing to be questionable as well--it would seem you are capitalizing on the September 11 tragedy to further an agenda that needs to be carefully explained to the public and that allows there to be effective public discourse. Any idea that a "nation united" means lessening the means for dissenting viewpoints undermines what this country is built on.

Please desist in these efforts.